

Weekly Newscast Lesson Plan



Learning English with CBC is a joint project with
CBC Calgary, CBC Edmonton and the Government of Alberta



Objectives:

- To develop listening skills
- To increase vocabulary
- To increase knowledge of current events
- To provide an authentic learning resource

Contents:

- Three news stories
- Vocabulary building activities
- Listening comprehension activities
- Transcripts
- Answer keys

Calgary

SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

News story #1 Fewer rigs, fewer jobs in the oil industry

Setting the Scene



Sue Ogrocki/Associated Press) (CBC File photo)

The province of Alberta is well-known for the oil sands and its oil drilling industry. Oil and gas make up a large part of Alberta's economy, and Canada's economy too. Nowadays, several factors are causing this industry to slow down. This is hurting the economy.

Pre-Listening Questions

What do we use oil for?

Why is this decline an important issue?

What will happen if the oil industry continues to slow down?

Vocabulary

Matching

Learning some of the new words you will hear in the listening will help you to understand the news story. Match the words on the left with their definitions on the right. *Answers are in the appendix.*

<u>Answer</u>	<u>Word</u>	<u>Definition</u>
_____	1. industry (n.)	a) to put together
_____	2. wells (n.)	b) lowering, slowing down
_____	3. drilled (v.)	c) not desirable, not something people want
_____	4. rigs (n.)	d) the businesses that make a product (e.g., clothing)
_____	5. decline (n.)	e) made a hole in something
_____	6. delays (n.)	f) people who put money into a project
_____	7. factors (n.)	g) holes put into the earth, to collect water, oil, etc.
_____	8. combine (v.)	h) the machines used to drill for oil
_____	9. unattractive (adj.)	i) the things that cause a situation or result
_____	10. investors (n.)	j) issues that make something happen late

Extra definitions to help you understand the listening:

shaping up to be – becoming

carbon taxes – taxes on natural fuels, aiming to reduce pollution

corporate tax rates – rates of tax for companies

pipeline projects – projects that send oil and gas directly to other places through pipes

We encourage you to study these new words using this link: https://quizlet.com/_2hgb63

You can practice online for free and as many times as you want to. The Quizlet app is a free vocabulary study tool. You can download it to your phone or tablet and practice new vocabulary whenever you have time.

Listening task

Multiple Choice

Listen to the news story and circle the best answer to complete the sentences.
Answers are in the appendix.

1. 2016 could be the worst year for the oil industry since the **1960s / 1970s / 1917**.
2. The number of oil wells drilled in total will drop by about **5 / 20 / 25** percent.
3. There will be **31 / 30 / 13** percent fewer rigs running this year.
4. The number of people in the industry is down **61 / 59 / 69** percent from two years ago.
5. Nearly **3,000 / 35,000 / 350** people have lost their jobs.
6. The reasons for the decline are new carbon taxes, a high corporate tax rate, and delays on **pipeline / refining / pumping** projects.

Food for Thought:

Do you think it is easy or difficult to find a job in Alberta these days? How can the province of Alberta help the people who have lost their jobs because of the decline in the oil industry?

News story #2 - Federal judge under review for behaviour in sexual assault trial

Setting the Scene



Justice Robin Camp (Jeff McIntosh/Canadian Press) (CBC file photo)

Justice Robin Camp may not be allowed to continue being a judge. He received complaints after making “rude” comments and questions during a sexual assault trial. Now, his job is being reviewed by a panel of judges and lawyers, who will make a decision about his future.

Pre-Listening Questions

What does a judge do?

What kind of comments do you think Justice Camp made?

How could these comments affect the trial?

Vocabulary

Matching synonyms

Learning some of the new words you will hear in the listening will help you to understand the news story. Match the words on the left with their synonyms on the right. *Answers are in the appendix.*

<u>Answer</u>	<u>Word</u>	<u>Definition</u>
_____	1. federal (adj.)	a) advice
_____	2. alleged (adj.)	b) unusual
_____	3. victim (n.)	c) uninformed
_____	4. attacker (n.)	d) declaration
_____	5. shut (adj.)	e) national
_____	6. rare (adj.)	f) person who harms
_____	7. testimony (n.)	g) unproven
_____	8. ignorant (adj.)	h) closed
_____	9. counselling (n.)	i) protester
_____	10. complainant (n.)	j) harmed person

Extra definitions to help you understand the listening:

under review – being examined by an official person or group

judicial review – a review of a court decision that might be considered unacceptable, done by judges or other legal professionals

clinical psychologist – a professional who treats mental illness and disability

We encourage you to study these new words using this link: https://quizlet.com/_2hgbi5

You can practice online for free and as many times as you want to. The Quizlet app is a free vocabulary study tool. You can download it to your phone or tablet and practice new vocabulary whenever you have time.

Listening task

Sequencing

Listen to the news story. The following sentences describe the events of the news story. Read the sentences and rewrite them below in the correct order that they happened. The first event was in 2014, and the last event is happening now. *Answers are in the appendix.*

A judicial
review
began.

The questions/
comments made the
alleged victim hate
herself.

Justice Robin
Camp made
insensitive
comments and
questions in
the trial.

Justice Camp agreed that
his comments were
insensitive, and received
counseling.

The judicial review panel
will decide if Camp can
continue to be a judge.

Two law professors
complained about Justice
Camp's comments.

1. In 2014, _____.
2. _____.
3. _____.
4. _____.
5. _____.
6. Now, _____.

Food for Thought

Imagine that you are on Justice Robin Camp's review panel. What decision would you make? Do you think he can continue to be a judge?

News story #3 Canadian athletes competing in Rio Paralympic Games

Setting the Scene



David Eng and Team Canada in Rio, Brazil (CBC file photo)

David Eng leads Team Canada in the opening ceremony of the 15th Paralympic Games, held in Rio, Brazil. The Paralympic Games are held for athletes with disabilities. Canadian athletes will participate in 19 different sports and events.

Pre-Listening Questions

Does your home country participate in the Olympics? What are the most popular sports?
Does your home country participate in the Paralympics?
Why are the Paralympics so important to Canada, and to the world?

Vocabulary

Fill in the Blanks

To help you better understand the the story, read the words with their synonyms, then fill them into the blank spaces to complete the sentences . *Answers are in the appendix.*

disabilities (n.)	limited physical ability	wheelchair (n.)	a chair with wheels
stadium (n.)	sports arena	honour (n.)	award
ceremonies (n.)	events to celebrate	compete (v.)	play against
co-captain (n.)	leader, with another person	included (adj.)	part of

1. Julia is the _____ of the hockey team. She leads the team with Catherine.
2. Furniture is not _____ in this apartment, so we need to buy a bed and a couch.
3. For authors in Canada, the Giller Prize is a wonderful _____.
4. They should use the stairs, so people with _____ can use the elevator.
5. Over 25 teams _____ in this event, but there will only be one winner.
6. For their 100th anniversary, the university will have several _____ to celebrate.
7. The new _____ in Edmonton will attract many people for sports and concerts.
8. When James broke his leg, he couldn't walk. He used a _____ to get around.

Extra definitions to help you understand the listening:

Paralympic Games – an international event where athletes with physical disabilities compete in various sports

We encourage you to study these new words using this link:

https://quizlet.com/_2hgbnq

You can practice online for free and as many times as you want to. The Quizlet app is a free vocabulary study tool. You can download it to your phone or tablet and practice new vocabulary whenever you have time.

Listening task

Fixing Errors

Listen to the news story and read the following sentences. Each sentence contains one error.

Find the error and fix it so that the sentence is correct.

Answers are in the appendix.

1. More than 160 Canadian journalists with disabilities are in Brazil for the games.
2. When Team Canada entered the stadium during the closing ceremonies, the flag was carried by David Eng.
3. David Eng will be competing in his fifth Paralympic Games.
4. David Eng helped Canada win silver medals in 2004 and 2012.
5. This year, more than 4,000 athletes from more than 160 teams will compete.
6. There are 22 different sports, including archery, para-cycling, and singles volleyball, wheelchair rugby, and wheelchair tennis.
7. Para-canoe and para-triathlon will be included for the fifth time.
8. Canadian athletes will compete in 90 different Paralympic events.

Food for Thought:

How do you think the Paralympic Games will change in the future?

Will they become more popular?

Will they have any problems?

Transcripts of Weekly news stories

	SEPTEMBER 9 TH WEEKLY NEWS STORIES	TIME
Introduction	Hi, I'm Shannon Scott and you are listening to Learning English with CBC for Friday September 9th.	0:00
Story 1	It's not shaping up to be a good year for the oil industry. The Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors is saying 20-16 could be the worst year for the industry since the 1970s. The Association says the number of oil wells drilled in total will drop by about 25 percent. And there will be 31 percent fewer rigs running this year. Fewer wells drilled and running, which means there are fewer jobs as well. The number of people working in the industry is down 69 per cent from two years ago. That means nearly 35 thousand people have lost their jobs. The President of the Association, Mark Scholz, says there are three reasons for the decline. These are: new carbon taxes, a high corporate tax rate in Alberta, and delays on pipeline projects. He says these factors all combine to make Canada unattractive to investors.	0:08
Story 2	A federal court judge is under review for comments he made during a sexual assault trial. Justice Robin Camp made the comments in 2014 when he was a provincial court judge. Throughout the trial, Camp asked the alleged victim questions, such as why she had not fought back harder against her alleged attacker, and why she didn't keep her knees shut. There were complaints about Camp's comments from two law professors at the University of Calgary and Dalhousie University in Halifax. These complaints led to a judicial review, which is very rare. A panel made up of three judges and two senior lawyers are hearing testimony about what happened. They will be responsible for deciding if Camp can continue to be a judge based on what he said during that trial. Camp has agreed his comments were insensitive, rude, and ignorant. He has received counselling from a clinical psychologist and a legal professor. The complainant spoke on the first day of the inquiry and said the judge's comments made her hate herself.	1:09
Story 3	The 15th Paralympic games have begun in Rio. More than 160 Canadian athletes with disabilities are in Brazil for the games. When Team Canada entered the stadium during the opening ceremonies, the Canadian flag was carried by David Eng. Eng is the co-captain of the wheelchair basketball team. This will be his fourth Paralympic games.	2:16

	<p>He helped Canada win gold medals in 2004 and 2012, as well as silver in 2008. Eng says being asked to carry the flag is the highest honour he could ever receive. This year, more than 4 thousand athletes from more than 160 countries will compete in 22 different sports, including archery, para-cycling, sitting volleyball, wheelchair rugby and wheelchair tennis. And this year for the first time para-canoe and para-triathlon will be included in the Games. Canadian athletes will compete in 19 different events.</p>	
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Answer keys

News story 1: Fewer rigs, fewer jobs in the oil industry

Vocabulary

<u>Answer</u>	<u>Word</u>	<u>Definition</u>
d	1. industry (n.)	a) to put together
g	2. wells (n.)	b) lowering, slowing down
c	3. drilled (v.)	c) not desirable, not something people want
h	4. rigs (n.)	d) the businesses that make a product (e.g., clothing)
b	5. decline (n.)	e) made a hole in something
j	6. delays (n.)	f) people who put money into a project
i	7. factors (n.)	g) holes put into the earth, to collect water, oil, etc.
a	8. combine (v.)	h) the machines used to drill for oil
c	9. unattractive (adj.)	i) the things that cause a situation or result
f	10. investors (n.)	j) issues that make something happen late

Listening

- 2016 could be the worst year for the oil industry since the **1960s** / **1970s** / **1917**.
- The number of oil wells drilled in total will drop by about **5** / **20** / **25** percent.
- There will be **31** / **30** / **13** percent fewer rigs running this year.
- The number of people in the industry is down **61** / **59** / **69** percent from two years ago.
- Nearly **3,000** / **35,000** / **350** people have lost their jobs.
- The reasons for the decline are new carbon taxes, a high corporate tax rate, and delays on **pipeline** / **refining** / **pumping** projects.

News story 2: Federal judge under review for behaviour in sexual assault trial

Vocabulary

<u>Answer</u>	<u>Word</u>	<u>Definition</u>
c	11. federal (adj.)	a) advice
g	12. alleged (adj.)	b) unusual
j	13. victim (n.)	c) uninformed
f	14. attacker (n.)	d) declaration
h	15. shut (adj.)	e) national
b	16. rare (adj.)	f) person who harms
d	17. testimony (n.)	g) unproven
c	18. ignorant (adj.)	h) closed
a	19. counselling (n.)	i) protester
i	20. complainant (n.)	j) harmed person

Listening

1. In 2014, Justice Robin Camp asked the alleged victim insensitive questions.
2. The comments made the alleged victim hate herself.
3. Two law professors complained about Justice Camp's comments.
4. A judicial review began.
5. Justice Camp agreed that his comments were insensitive, and received counselling.
6. The judicial review panel will decide if Camp can continue to be a judge.

News story 3 - Canadians athletes competing in Rio Paralympic Games

Vocabulary

1. Julia is the **co-captain** of the hockey team. She leads the team with Catherine.
2. Furniture is not **included** in this apartment, so we need to buy a bed and a couch.
3. For authors in Canada, the Giller Prize is a wonderful **honour**.
4. They should use the stairs, so people with **disabilities** can use the elevator.
5. Over 25 teams **compete** in this event, but there will only be one winner.
6. For their 100th anniversary, the university will have several **ceremonies** to celebrate.
7. The new **arena** in Edmonton will attract many people for sports and concerts.
8. When James broke his leg, he couldn't walk. He used a **wheelchair** to get around.

Listening

1. More than 160 Canadian ~~journalists~~ **athletes** with disabilities are in Brazil for the games.
2. When Team Canada entered the stadium during the ~~closing~~ **opening** ceremonies, the flag was carried by David Eng.
3. David Eng will be competing in his ~~fifth~~ **fourth** Paralympic Games.
4. David Eng helped Canada win ~~silver~~ **gold** medals in 2004 and 2012.
5. This year, more than 4,000 athletes from more than 160 ~~teams~~ **countries** will compete.
6. There are 22 different sports, including archery, para-cycling, and ~~singles~~ **sitting** volleyball, wheelchair rugby, and wheelchair tennis.
7. Para-canoe and para-triathlon will be included for the ~~fifth~~ **first** time.
8. Canadian athletes will compete in ~~90~~ **19** different Paralympic events.